

his desire to give back to our community illustrates his worthiness of this honor. He played his entire career as No. 5 for 21 seasons in Kansas City where he achieved a career batting average of .305. Mr. Brett holds 3 American League batting titles and is a 13-time All Star. He is the only player in Major League history to have earned at least 3,000 hits, 300 home runs, 600 doubles, 100 triples and 200 stolen bases. Mr. Brett powered the Kansas City Royals to a World Championship in 1985 with a .370 batting average for the Series. The members of the Baseball Writers' Association of America voted 98.19 percent in selecting Mr. Brett to the Hall of Fame. This is the fourth highest percentage in history.

As a first and third baseman, George Brett was bigger than life when out on the field. Baseball fans remember when he chased the magical .400 batting average record set by Ted Williams of the Boston Red Sox. Mr. Brett was so admired during his playing days that around town there were "George Brett for President" bumper stickers. Hard work and dedication made him a sports hero that kids from all over the Midwest and the nation still look up to as a role model. He truly is an inspiration to the young people of our nation and has made the game exciting for fans of all ages.

We are all very proud of Mr. Brett and his accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Brett, his family and the Kansas City Royals for this monumental achievement.

DESIGNATING THE FLORIDA PANTHER AS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would declare the Florida Panther, specifically, to be an endangered species. As a longtime supporter of the recovery plan to restore the Florida Panther population, I believe that the Panther should be named by statute as a protected species under the Endangered Species Act.

The Florida Panther is one of the most seriously endangered subspecies in the United States. Like most endangered species, there are multiple problems threatening the Panther and its recovery. Along with the usual issues of habitat loss, the Florida Panther also suffers from genetic isolation and inbreeding. The Fish and Wildlife Service has been initiating a Habitat Protection Plan along with the genetic restoration effort for the Panther. I believe that we need to support this endeavor to restore the Florida Panther population and name this species by statute as an endangered species. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STOP SWEATSHOPS—NOW

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with 26 of my colleagues to introduce legislation to curb the re-emergence of sweatshops in the domestic garment industry. This legislation is identical to a bill I introduced in the last Congress, H.R. 23.

Sweatshops have returned to the apparel industry in the United States in numbers and forms reminiscent of the turn of the century. A decade and a half ago, the General Accounting Office (GAO) documented the re-emergence of sweatshops. The GAO has identified sweatshop activity across the country, from California to New York and from Chicago to Texas and Florida. Despite significant and commendable enforcement efforts by the Department of Labor under the Clinton Administration, sweatshops continue to be a serious problem, particularly within the garment industry. Even my Republican colleagues on the Committee on Education and the Workforce, the Gentleman from Pennsylvania, Mr. GOODLING, and the Gentleman from Michigan, Mr. HOEKSTRA, have noted the re-emergence of sweatshops.

The re-emergence of sweatshops has impoverished workers and their families and has driven reputable contractors out of otherwise profitable businesses. It represents a problem that cannot and should not be tolerated.

The "Stop Sweatshops Act" establishes joint liability on the part of manufacturers in the garment industry who contract with sweatshop operators for violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). This legislation strengthens the ability of the Department of Labor to enforce the law and improves the ability of garment workers to obtain redress where violations occur. As importantly, by encouraging manufacturers in the garment industry to deal with reputable contractors, this legislation acts to balance market pressures that have encouraged the re-emergence of sweatshops.

One hundred of my colleagues joined me last Congress as cosponsors of this legislation. I urge those of my colleagues who have supported this legislation in the past to do so again. And, I urge those who have not previously cosponsored this legislation to do so now. We cannot continue to allow unscrupulous employers to drive responsible employers out of business. Nor should we continue to tolerate working conditions that undermine rather than promote the well being of workers. As we near the end of the 20th Century, we must eliminate this vestige of 19th Century exploitation.

THE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to protect the

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health of America's children, the Children's Environmental Protection Act.

In 1996, Congress unanimously passed the Food Quality Protection Act (FQPA) which requires the Environmental Protection Agency to consider children's exposure to pesticides in food limit pesticide exposure to children. While the FQPA focused on protecting children by ensuring that the food they eat does not contain harmful levels of pesticides, this bill establishes guidelines to help reduce and eliminate exposure of children to environmental pollutants in areas reasonably accessible to children. The bill also requires the collection of toxicity data by the EPA Administrator, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services so that we can begin to understand, with some level of accuracy, the long-term health effects and toxicity of pesticides and other environmental pollutants on children.

For too long risk assessments have been performed using the average, robust 170 pound male as a model. As a result, we really have no idea how these chemicals impact a child's system. This leaves our children at risk because their physiology, play habits, and patterns of exposure make them more vulnerable to toxic harm. For example, children breathe in more of an air pollutant per pound of body weight. They eat more fresh fruit by body weight and drink proportionally more tap water, juice, and milk.

This bill addresses that problem by requiring that all EPA standards for environmental pollutants be set at levels that protect children. In addition, the Act requires EPA to publish a "Safe for Children" list of products, in addition to providing parents and the public with advice on how to minimize a child's exposure to harmful pollutants.

This bill also helps families educate themselves about potential threats to their children's health through the creation of a family right-to-know information kit. The kit will include a summary of helpful information and guidance to families and practical suggestions on how parents can reduce their children's exposure to environmental pollutants.

This bill will begin to provide the essential information we need to quantify and evaluate the impact of environmental pollutants in children. The more we know about potential risks and the less toxic burden we put on the environment the healthier our children will be. This legislation has been endorsed by Administrator Browner and by several environmental and health organizations. I urge your support and co-sponsorship of this important legislation.

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY BURIAL ELIGIBILITY ACT

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 1999

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Arlington National Cemetery Burial Eligibility Act." I invite members to join me as a cosponsor of this important legislation. It is my expectation that the VA Committee will